

COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

FY 1999, 2000, 2001

Linnel Nishioka, Deputy Director



Photo credit to Clifford Inn, the SHPD.

“The State has the obligation to protect, control and regulate the use of Hawai‘i’s water resources for the benefit of its people.”

Ralph S. Hosmer

ROLE AND RESPONSIBILITY

The Commission on Water Resource Management (CWRM) is the State agency that regulates and administers the State Water Code. The State Water Code was enacted by the Legislature in 1987. The Commission’s mandate is to make wise decisions on water use that preserve and protect our most precious resource while allowing maximum reasonable and beneficial use for generations to come.

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The budget for the Commission for FY’s 1999-2001 was \$1.7 million annually. The Commission employed 22 people, including hydrologists, geologists, engineers, and administrative staff. **The main functions of the Commission are the following: basic data collection and resource assessment, enforcement and technical support services, regulation of water resources and water resource planning.**

The Commission is responsible for setting overall water conservation, quantity and use policies. This involves the following: providing for the reasonable and beneficial use of water; protecting and sustaining ground-water and surface-water resources; protecting watersheds, and natural stream environments; establishing criteria for water use priorities while assuring appurtenant rights and existing correlative and riparian uses; and instituting procedures for regulating and managing all uses of Hawai‘i’s water resources.

The Commission is administratively attached to the Department of Land and Natural

Resources and is governed by a separate six-member commission. Four members appointed by the Governor, and the Director of Health and the Chairperson of the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) are designated by statute as ex-officio voting members. The Chairperson of the DLNR serves as Chairperson of the Commission.

The Deputy Director for Water Resource Management heads the staff of the Commission. Under the general direction of the Deputy for Water Resource Management, the staff implements and administers the provisions of the State Water Code by planning, surveying, regulating, monitoring, and conserving the State’s water resources within established rules, regulations, and plans that have been adopted by the Commission. The Commission’s staff is divided into four branches that are headed by branch chiefs that report directly to the Deputy for Water Resource Management. The four branches are:

1. PLANNING BRANCH. The planning branch develops comprehensive, long-range plans for the protection, conservation, and management of the State’s water resources and prepares, administers, and coordinates the development and updating of various plans, including but not limited to, the Hawai‘i Water Plan, which consists of eight (8) plan components. The planning branch is also responsible for the implementation of the Hawai‘i Drought Plan including providing administrative support and

- CWRM administers the state water code.
- Hawai‘i has been in drought conditions since 1995.
- Total ground water pumped per day is estimated to be 516 million gallons statewide.
- There are 376 streams in Hawai‘i.

coordinating the activities of the Hawai'i Drought Council, Water Resources Committee, Drought Task Forces, and County/Local Drought Committees. The planning branch develops and implements specific projects and programs as directed by the Commission, and as divided by the Hawai'i Drought Council in accordance with the provisions of the Hawai'i Drought Plan.

2. SURVEY BRANCH. The survey branch is responsible for the collection, analysis, and verification of hydrological data, general water resource information, and all water uses statewide from wells and stream diversions. The survey branch conducts water availability and sustainable yield analyses for aquifers and watersheds statewide, topographical surveys, research, and investigation into all aspects of water occurrence and water use, and provides technical services in support of Commission programs administered by the Planning, Survey, Ground-Water Regulation, and Stream Protection and Management Branches. Technical services include reviewing pumping tests to ascertain well capacity and efficiency, analyzing aquifer characteristics, determining appropriate pumping rates and pump settings, and undertaking other activities essential for the operation and maintenance of wells.

3. GROUND-WATER REGULATION BRANCH. The ground-water regulation branch implements Commission policies, procedures, and rules on ground-water development and usage established in conformance with the State Water Code, establishes minimum standards for the construction of wells and the installation of pumps and pumping equipment, and administers the designation and regulation of water management areas and the processing of applications for water use permits in designated ground-water management areas. The ground-water regulation branch administers the ground-water use permits; well construction and

pump installation permits, and enforces regulations related to the use of ground water. The branch processes petitions for water reservations, petitions for designation of ground-water management areas and declaratory rulings, and analyzes the merits and makes recommendations to the Commission for final disposition.

4. STREAM PROTECTION AND MANAGEMENT BRANCH. The stream protection and management branch established in 2002, implements Commission policies, procedures, and rules on stream protection and management, instream flow standards, and surface-water regulation and usage established in conformance with the State Water Code. It administers a permit system for the construction and alteration of stream channels and stream diversions works. It establishes and administers a statewide instream protection program, including the establishment of instream flow standards. It administers the investigations and enforcement actions necessary for permit conformance in response to citizen complaints and in the resolution of water related disputes. It works with other agencies and community groups to protect watersheds, streams, and wetlands from further degradation through the implementation of this program, and it is developing a stream restoration program to enhance and reestablish beneficial instream uses of water.

The Department has been involved in establishing a risk management program. The program has involved training of department personnel in risk assessment and management; obtaining \$800,000 in capital improvement funds to improve warning signage on DLNR properties; development of a three-tier hierarchy for risk management whereby DLNR properties where the public is invited would receive the greatest scrutiny and attention; and a risk management protocol to assess and evaluate the risks of DLNR properties after an occurrence has hap-

pened.

SURVEY OF RESOURCES

Beneath each of the Hawai'i's main islands are aquifers of fresh water. Wind and rain bring the water to the main islands where it is caught by trees and underbrush of the watersheds. The water captured by the trees and earth permeates through basaltic rock and seeps into large underground aquifers. The water in the aquifers is impeded from escaping into surrounding seawater by caprock deposits and by vertical dikes of volcanic rock that trap the water in and lower the porosity and permeability of surrounding rock.

The total ground water pumped per day during 1995 in Hawai'i was estimated by the United States Geological Survey (USGS) to be approximately 516 million gallons. This was estimated to be less than 3% of the average total rainfall in Hawai'i, which is estimated to be 21 billion gallons per day. However, 40% of the rainfall runs off to the ocean in streams and an additional 50% can be lost to the transpiration of plants and evaporation into the atmosphere. The underwater aquifers are recharged by rainfall, fog drip (cloud vapor intercepted by vegetation that occurs at levels between 2,000 and 6,000 feet) and irrigation water. Recharge typically constitutes about 10 to 50 percent of the rainfall, fog drip and irrigation water. Estimates per island of ground-water use were the following: O'ahu, 243 million gallons per day, Kaua'i, 42 million gallons per day, Island of Hawai'i 109 million, and Maui County which includes Moloka'i and Lāna'i made use of 122 million gallons per day, (93% of the total came from Maui Island.)

According to the USGS, "the main factors limiting ground-water availability in Hawai'i are saltwater intrusion, the reduction of discharge to streams and the ocean and the lowering of water levels. When water is withdrawn from a freshwater lens, the lens shrinks and salt-

water or brackish water will intrude upwards and landward into parts of the aquifer that formerly contained freshwater."

According to the Hawai'i Stream Assessment, there are 376 perennial streams in Hawai'i. Under the Commission's stream protection program and the Waiāhole case, an instream flow standard must be set for each stream. This standard should protect beneficial instream uses while balancing the economic effects of reducing off stream uses. These streams make up the heart of the surface waters in the state.

HIGHLIGHTS

Since 1995, Hawai'i has experienced drought conditions. This has resulted in substantially lower rainfall for consecutive years and extended through 1998, 1999, 2000, and 2001. The worst conditions have been found on the southeastern portions of the island chain, particularly on Maui and the Hawai'i Island. On the Big Island the combination of low rainfall and volcanic emissions have altered rainfall patterns. The National Weather Service reported that the May 2000 rainfall of .03 inches broke the old record low of .05 set in 1949. Record lows were also recorded for Maui.

In 2000, a broad based task force of government agencies and the private sector came together to formulate the Hawai'i Drought Plan. The drought plan is envisioned to be a proactive plan of action that can address effects of drought prior to catastrophic losses of livestock and crops and damages due to fire. The Commission has been designated the lead agency to implement the drought program. One of the major goals of the program was to establish a state drought coordinator to manage and implement the drought program. In 2001, the Commission was successful in establishing and funding a drought coordinator to coordinate actions of all water departments, agricultural users and private landowners. The function of

the drought coordinator is to prevent drought losses by better predicting drought, coordinating government and private sector responses to drought, and obtaining federal funding to address the effects of drought.

In August 2000, the Hawai'i Supreme Court in a landmark case, *In re Water Use Permit Application*, 94 Haw. 97; 9 P.3d 409 (2000), it was determined that the Commission must set instream flow standards for all streams in Hawai'i. This decision places a large mandate on the Commission to establish and adjudicate surface water rights and habitat needs. This landmark case has set the agenda for the Commission for years to come. The Supreme Court mandated that instream flow standards be set for all perennial streams, and for those involved in the case, to be set with "due haste." These instream flow standards are needed to protect the beneficial instream uses of water while balancing the economic effect of reducing off stream uses that take water out of streams.

OVER THE PERIOD 1998-01 THE COMMISSION WAS INVOLVED IN OR INITIATED THE FOLLOWING EVENTS:

Contested Case Hearings

The Commission issued the final Findings of Facts, Conclusions of Law, and Decisions and Orders for the "Ewa Marina Contested Case Hearing (CCH)" on September 25, 1998, for the "Lā'ie CCH" on December 7, 1998, and for the "Waiola O Moloka'i CCH" on December 28, 1998. The Waiola case was the only case appealed at the Hawai'i Supreme Court and is currently pending at the court. The "Kukui (Moloka'i), Inc. (KMI)" final findings of fact, conclusions of law, and decision and order was issued in December 2001. The case is currently on appeal with the Hawai'i Supreme Court. In August 2000, the Hawai'i Supreme Court remanded seven issues to the Commission in

the Waiāhole case. The Commission issued its final Legal Framework Findings of Fact and Decision and Order in December 2001. The case is currently on appeal at the Hawai'i Supreme Court.

Framework for Updating the Hawai'i Water Plan

The Commission adopted the Statewide Framework for Updating the Hawai'i Water Plan. The State Water Code mandates the development of the Hawai'i Water Plan, a long-range planning document to guide the Commission in executing its general powers, duties, and responsibilities assuring economic development, good municipal services, agricultural stability, and environmental protection. This statewide framework will guide the counties and state agencies responsible for developing component plans to assure integration and consideration of all water planning efforts undertaken by federal, state, county, and private entities.

Adoption of New Sustainable Yields

The Commission adopted new sustainable yields for the Waipahu-Waiawa and 'Ewa-Kunia Aquifer Systems in the Pearl Harbor sector. Ground water in the Pearl Harbor aquifer is the major source of drinking water for the island of O'ahu. The reductions in sustainable yield, which is defined as the maximum rate that water can be withdrawn without impairing the utility or quality of the water resource, were caused by the cessation of sugarcane agriculture on overlying lands, and the associated decrease in return irrigation recharge. The Commission reduced the sustainable yield in the Waipahu-Waiawa sector of the Pearl Harbor Aquifer from 120 million gallons per day (mgd.) to 104 mgd and reduced the 'Ewa-Kunia sector from 20 mgd. to 16 mgd. Reduced sustainable yield better reflect the current conditions in the Pearl

Harbor Aquifer.

Commission Web Site

The Water Commission now provides information on their web site. The State Water Code, Administrative Rules, Declaratory Rulings, Hawai'i Well Construction and Pump Installation Standards, updated permit application forms (which can be downloaded by anyone with Internet access), Geographic Information System products (including aquifer system maps for each island), the well index (providing location, construction, and use information for ground-water wells statewide), the monthly bulletin, and the agenda for each month's meeting are now available online. The Water Commission is also putting together a people database where the bulletin and agenda will be emailed to interested parties.

PROGRAM ACCOMPLISHMENTS, FY 1999, 2000, 2001

BASIC DATA COLLECTION AND RESOURCE ASSESSMENT

The primary goal for the basic data collection and resource assessment is to provide the Commission with accurate water resource and geologic data so that informed decisions can be made. Basic data collection also benefits the public because water resource data are archived and available for public use. These goals are achieved through the following objectives:

OBJECTIVE 1—Ground-water data collected, analyzed, and archived for areas where development pressures may create future resource problems.

PROGRAM ACCOMPLISHMENTS, FY 1999:

- Continued to collect quarterly water level data in West Hawai'i from 25 wells.
- Installed Handar automated water level recorder in Kona Well to improve data collection.
- Collected monthly water samples, temperature, and conductivity readings from 20 wells in the 'Ewa Caprock aquifer.
- Purchased four Handar automated water level recorders for improved data monitoring.
- Purchased conductivity sondes and water samplers for four new deep monitor wells to be drilled on O'ahu, Maui, and Hawai'i for enhanced data collection.
- Continued to log four deep monitor wells on O'ahu and one on Maui using a temperature/depth/conductivity sonde.
- Staff evaluated changes to the sustainable yield in the 'Ewa-Kunia and Waipahu-Waiawa Aquifer Systems.

■ Continued to refine our cooperative basic data collection program with the U. S. Geological Survey.

■ Continued to help the public and consultants by providing assistance and ground-water data on a daily basis.

PROGRAM ACCOMPLISHMENTS, FY 2000:

- Continued to collect quarterly water level data in West Hawai'i from 25 wells.
- Collected monthly water samples, tempera-

ture, and conductivity readings from 20 wells in the 'Ewa Caprock aquifer.

- Continued to log four deep monitor wells on O'ahu and one on Maui using a temperature/depth/conductivity sonde.

- Measured spring discharge at Pūko'o, Moloka'i.

- A new deep monitor well was constructed in Hālawā Valley, O'ahu to aid in the resource management of the Pearl Harbor Sector.

- Began construction on a deep monitor well near the Kahalu'u Shaft, near Keauhou, Kailua-Kona.

- Staff recommended changes to the sustainable yield in the 'Ewa-Kunia and Waipahu-Waiawa Aquifer Systems, which were adopted by the Commission.

- Continued to refine our cooperative basic data collection program with the U. S. Geological Survey.

- Provided comments on the East Maui water resource study conducted by the U. S. Geological Survey.

- Assisted the U. S. Geological Survey in locating a deep monitor well in the Kualapu'u.

- Aquifer System, Moloka'i, and prepared a geologic log of the formations encountered.

- Continued to improve the ground-water databases to automate construction of graphs to display ground-water data.

- Continued to help the public and consultants by providing assistance and groundwater data on a daily basis.

OBJECTIVE 2—Analyze and archive aquifer test data submitted by applicants for new wells.

PROGRAM ACCOMPLISHMENTS,
FY 1999:

- Analyzed aquifer test data for transmissivity and hydraulic conductivity for 30 new wells.

PROGRAM ACCOMPLISHMENTS,
FY 2000:

- Analyzed aquifer test data for transmissivity and hydraulic conductivity for 22 new wells.

OBJECTIVE 3—Collect and archive climatological data.

PROGRAM ACCOMPLISHMENTS,
FY 1999:

- Continued to monitor rainfall using recording electronic gauges in remote watersheds, to determine rainfall characteristics in order to refine estimates of groundwater recharge.

- Continued to update rainfall databases.

PROGRAM ACCOMPLISHMENTS,
FY 2000:

- Continued to monitor rainfall using recording electronic gauges in remote watersheds, to determine rainfall characteristics in order to refine estimates of groundwater recharge.

- Transferred rainfall databases to the University of Hawai'i's Department of Meteorology to strengthen the statewide program.

OBJECTIVE 4—Collect and analyze geological data.

PROGRAM ACCOMPLISHMENTS, FY 1999:

- Prepared a geologic log for a state well in Kamuela.
- Investigated one rockfall for State Parks.

PROGRAM ACCOMPLISHMENTS, FY 2000:

- Prepared geologic logs for Hālawā deep monitor well and the Kaulapū deep monitor well. Investigated three rockfalls for State Parks and Department of Transportation.
- Participated in quarterly meetings of the Earthquake Advisory Board, which advises Civil Defense and the public.
- Participated in the Risk Assessment Working Group to assess and manage risks on State land.

WATER RESOURCE PLANNING

The Commission utilizes and continuously undertakes comprehensive water resources planning in its regulation and management of our state's water resources. The Water Code calls for the development of a Hawai'i Water Plan (HWP), a multi-component water resources planning document, to guide the Commission in executing its general powers, duties, and responsibilities to assure economic development, good municipal services, agricultural stability, and environmental protection.

The components of the HWP include the: 1) Water Resource Protection Plan, which describes the nature and occurrence of water resources in the state and programs to conserve, augment, and protect the resources, 2) Water Quality Plan, which seeks to protect all existing and potential sources of drinking water from contaminating activities, 3) Agricultural Water

Use and Development Plan, to inventory and assess agricultural irrigation systems statewide, 4) State Water Projects Plan, which inventories existing state water systems, assesses future state project water demands and water development strategies to meet future projections, and 5) County Water Use and Development Plans for each of the four counties, setting forth the allocation of water to land use in each county.

OBJECTIVE 1—To develop a dynamic planning process that results in a “living document” for each component of the Hawai'i Water Plan which will provide state and county decision-makers with well formulated options and strategies for addressing future water resource management and development issues.

PROGRAM ACCOMPLISHMENTS, FY 1999

Recognizing the current complexities associated with planning, regulation, and management of water resources, the Commission undertook development of a statewide framework for updating the Hawai'i Water Plan. The proposed framework will incorporate techniques of Integrated Resource Planning towards formulation of a consistent and coordinated program for the protection, conservation, and management of our state's water resources. This planning framework will be utilized to more effectively integrate and update the multi-component Hawai'i Water Plan.

The Commission requested and received funding to initiate the updates to the HWP. One such component was the Water Resource Protection Plan (WRPP). The major objective of the WRPP is to protect and sustain statewide ground-and space surface-water resources, watersheds, and natural stream environments. Such protection shall be established through a comprehensive study of the occurrence, sustainability, conservation, and augmentation of our water resources, as well as other

resource management measures.

PROGRAM ACCOMPLISHMENTS, FY 2000

The Commission completed and adopted the statewide framework for updating the Hawai'i Water Plan. The framework serves to guide the counties and state agencies responsible for developing component parts of the HWP. An important objective of the framework was to identify and establish the principles and techniques of integrated resource planning as the recommended approach for updating the county water use and development plans. Other objectives include achieving better integration of land use and water planning efforts and establishment of an overall schedule for phased updating of the HWP. Implementation of these framework elements will result in development of a HWP that is a "living document" having continued and long-term viability.

The Commission continued its efforts to update the Water Resource Protection Plan. The scope of work includes updating estimates of sustainable yield for ground-water resources; development of a stream diversion inventory, numbering system, and Geographical Information System coverage; establishment of surface water hydrographic units; and compilation of Commission policies regarding water resource protection, conservation, and management. The Commission actively oversees the project, which is currently ongoing.

OBJECTIVE 2—To better define the roles and responsibilities of state and county agencies responsible for the development and updating of the HWP components.

PROGRAM ACCOMPLISHMENTS, FY 1999

■ The Commission participated as a member of the technical advisory committee to the

Department of Health in the development of its Source Water Assessment Program (SWAP). The SWAP will assess the vulnerability of existing drinking water sources to potential contaminating activities and help educate the public on the importance and protection of our drinking water supply.

■ Preliminary meetings were held in each county to discuss the HWP framework and the scheduling of County Water Use and Development Plan updates. Currently, only Maui County and the City and County of Honolulu has appropriated funding to proceed with the required update of its WUDP. The Commission staff continues to work in coordination with responsible county agencies on Maui and O'ahu to ensure consistency between the scope of work for the WUDP update and the Commission's HWP framework.

PROGRAM ACCOMPLISHMENTS, FY 2000

■ The Commission continued its active participation on the Department of Health's Source Water Assessment Program (SWAP) technical advisory committee. As a result of greater public understanding of the Hawai'i Water Plan and SWAP objectives, citizens can become more actively involved in the protection of our state's drinking water supply. The Commission views this as the first step towards the development of a water quality-based resource protection program, to be incorporated within the next update of the Water Quality Plan.

OBJECTIVE 3—To achieve integration of land use and water planning efforts that are undertaken by federal, state, county, and private entities so that a consistent and coordinated plan for the protection, conservation, and management of our water resources is achieved.

PROGRAM ACCOMPLISHMENTS, FY 1999

■ The Agricultural Water Use and Development Plan (AWUDP) was statutorially added to the multi-component HWP. The Commission continued its support and assistance to the Department of Agriculture in their efforts to seek required funding for preparation of the AWUDP.

■ As with the WRPP, the Commission requested and received funding to update the State Water Projects Plan, whose objective is to provide the framework for data gathering, planning and implementation of water development strategies to meet projected water demands for state projects. The plan was implemented in coordination with the County's WUDP.

PROGRAM ACCOMPLISHMENTS, FY 2000

■ The Commission continued its efforts to facilitate and assist in the development of the scope of work for the AWUDP component of the HWP. Continued inter-agency meetings with the Department of Agriculture took place to identify priority needs and required project elements.

■ The Commission continued its efforts to update the State Water Projects Plan. A final draft report was prepared and reviewed by the Commission and the Department's Land Division - Engineering Branch. The plan identifies and evaluates source development options available to meet forecasted water demand for state sponsored projects over a 20-year planning horizon culminating in a recommended source development strategy.

■ The Commission continued to participate in the planning and development of wastewater reuse in the City and County of Honolulu. In

partnership with the City's Department of Environmental Services, the Honolulu Board of Water Supply, and the State Department of Health, the Commission participated in inter-agency planning sessions to develop, oversee, and facilitate water reclamation opportunities within the 'Ewa Caprock region of O'ahu.

■ The Commission served as co-chair with the Department of Agriculture on the Hawai'i Drought Council. The Commission took the lead in developing a multi-agency and stakeholder plan to improve, focus, and better coordinate drought-related activities in the state. Phase 1 of the Hawai'i Drought Plan established a framework for agency response and mitigation actions, proposed more effective forecasting techniques, and identified immediate and near-term actions to address current and future drought conditions. The plan sought to establish aggressive preparedness and proactive mitigation measures to reduce the damaging effects of drought. A permanent Drought Coordinator position was recommended and established within the Water Commission.

REGULATION OF WATER RESOURCES

Through regulation, the Commission strives to maintain sustainability of Hawai'i's water resources. The staff processes applications and makes recommendations to the Commission for the issuance of well construction, pump installation, stream channel alteration, stream diversion works, and water use permits throughout the state. The State Water Code allows for the Commission to establish administrative control over the withdrawal of ground water and diversion of surface water in streams and water management areas. The Water Code also protects instream uses including aquatic and stream-based wildlife habitat, recreation, aesthetics, and hydropower.

OBJECTIVE 1—Ensure maximum reasonable and beneficial use in the development and management of the state’s water resources.

**PROGRAM ACCOMPLISHMENTS,
FY 1999**

■ A statewide total of 38 applications for Stream Channel Alteration Permits, 118 applications for Well Construction or Pump Installation permits, and 24 applications for Water Use Permits in designated ground-water management areas were reviewed and acted upon by the Commission. All of these permit applications have had to undergo various levels of staff review and field verifications prior to formal issuance of permits by the Commission.

■ The Commission ordered an illegal diversion on Hakalaoa Stream, above Waipi`o Valley, Hawai`i, to be removed within a fixed time.

■ Continued to meet and work with Working Groups on certain neighbor islands who are attempting to develop water use and development plans.

■ Continued monitoring of pumpage data and instituted revocation of unused ground water allocations to make water available for future uses.

**PROGRAM ACCOMPLISHMENTS,
FY 2000**

■ A statewide total of 26 applications for Stream Channel Alteration Permits, 125 applications for Well Construction or Pump Installation Permits, and 8 applications for Water Use Permits in designated ground-water management areas were reviewed and acted upon by the Commission. All of these permit applications have had to undergo various levels of staff review and field verifications prior to formal issuance of permits by the Commission.

■ Well Construction/Pump Installation Permit Application forms and Completion Report forms were updated to further compliance with minimum well construction standards.

■ Continued to meet and work with Working Groups on certain neighbor islands who were attempting to develop water use and development plans.

■ Continued monitoring of pumpage data and instituted revocation of unused ground-water allocations to make water available for future uses.

OBJECTIVE 2—Utilize and maintain new technology to aid and enhance agency functions.

**PROGRAM ACCOMPLISHMENTS,
FY 1999**

■ Well Construction/Pump Installation Permit Application forms and Completion Report forms were updated to take advantage of our new, more efficiently structured relational databases.

■ In conjunction with the department’s Data Processing Office, department-wide email was made available.

■ Continued construction and integration of Commission’s databases.

■ Program Accomplishments, FY 1999-2000

■ Full Internet accesses with a secure firewall was made available for all those in the department in the Kalanimoku Building. This further increased the department’s use of the Internet to disseminate and retrieve information from the Internet.

■ Smooth Y2K computer upgrades and transi-

tion for DLNR.

OBJECTIVE 3—Develop a consistent and rational policy and procedures for enforcement of Water Code provisions.

PROGRAM ACCOMPLISHMENTS, FY 2000

The Commission adopted a penalty policy guideline to provide a logical and consistent means to assess penalties and guide the settlement of the Commission's enforcement cases. This allowed quicker, clearer, and more consistent fine calculations for violations of the Water Code, administrative rules, and permit conditions. The Commission and staff will use this guideline to deter violations, provide fair treatment of the regulated community and offer the violator a chance to undertake a beneficial alternative, under proper conditions, in a partial or total settlement of a cash penalty.

OBJECTIVE 4—Streamline procedures and reduce unnecessary regulation.

PROGRAM ACCOMPLISHMENTS, FY 1999

■ The Commission adopted a declaratory order exempting the Department of Facility Maintenance, City and County of Honolulu, from Stream Channel Alteration Permit requirements for certain stream-clearing maintenance activities.

■ The Commission executed a Memorandum of Agreement with the Department of Health (DOH) to exempt Well Abandonment Permit Applications from DOH review. This has resulted in more efficient processing of the permits. Application forms were revised to reflect the refinement of the inter-agency review process.

PROGRAM ACCOMPLISHMENTS, FY 2000

■ The Commission executed two Memorandums of Agreement with the Department of Health (DOH) to exempt Well Construction Permit Applications for monitor and salt-water wells from DOH review. This has resulted in more efficient processing of the permits. Application forms were revised to reflect the refinement of the inter-agency review process.

■ Well Construction/Pump Installation Permit Application forms and Completion Report forms were updated to facilitate/reduce the amount of information required from the permittee.

ENFORCEMENT AND TECHNICAL SUPPORT SERVICES

The Commission continues to provide technical field and office services in support of Commission programs and activities. These functions include the investigation of water-related complaints and disputes, enforcement of rules and standards, and the monitoring of permitted activities. Particular attention was placed on the field verification of reported water uses from groundwater and surface-water sources in critical areas of the state.

OBJECTIVE 1—Develop and implement a dispute resolution and citizen complaint process.

PROGRAM ACCOMPLISHMENTS, FY 1999-2000:

■ Developed and implemented a dispute resolution process that resulted in the resolution of several water-related disputes, thereby minimizing the need to enter into contested case proceedings. The Commission continued to refine

its dispute resolution process to facilitate outcome of water-related disputes and the reaching of mediated agreements. A total of seven out of ten water-related complaints were investigated and acted upon by the Commission staff, the balance of which are still under various stages of review and/or resolution.

- Continued to conduct field inspections to investigate complaints and disputes, to determine whether projects require permits from the Commission, to determine compliance with permit conditions, and to verify registered groundwater sources, declared water uses, and applicants for water use permits.

PROGRAM ACCOMPLISHMENTS, FY 2000:

- Developed and implemented a dispute resolution process that resulted in the resolution of several water-related disputes, thereby minimizing the need to enter into contested case proceedings. The Commission continues to refine its dispute resolution process to facilitate outcome of water-related disputes and the reaching of mediated agreements. A total of nine out of twelve water-related complaints were investigated and acted upon by the Commission staff, the balance of which are still under various stages of review and/or resolution.

- Continued to conduct field inspections to investigate complaints and disputes, to determine whether projects require permits from the Commission, to determine compliance with permit conditions, and to verify registered groundwater sources, declared water uses, and applicants for water use permits.

OBJECTIVE 2—To provide technical assistance to division and department programs.

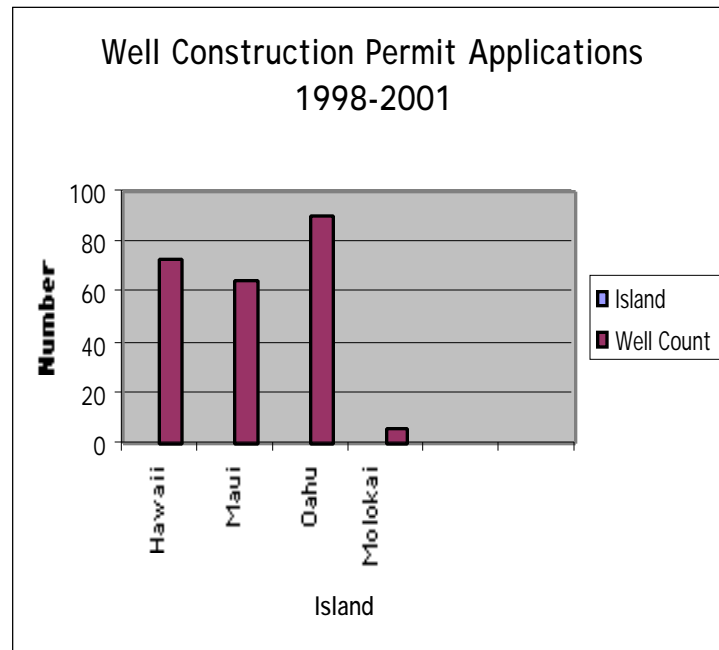
PROGRAM ACCOMPLISHMENTS, FY 1999-2000

- Continued to provide technical assistance in monitoring and collecting groundwater and surface-water data from selected wells, streams, and ditches statewide.

- Continued to provide drafting, mapping, and GIS services in support of division and department programs.

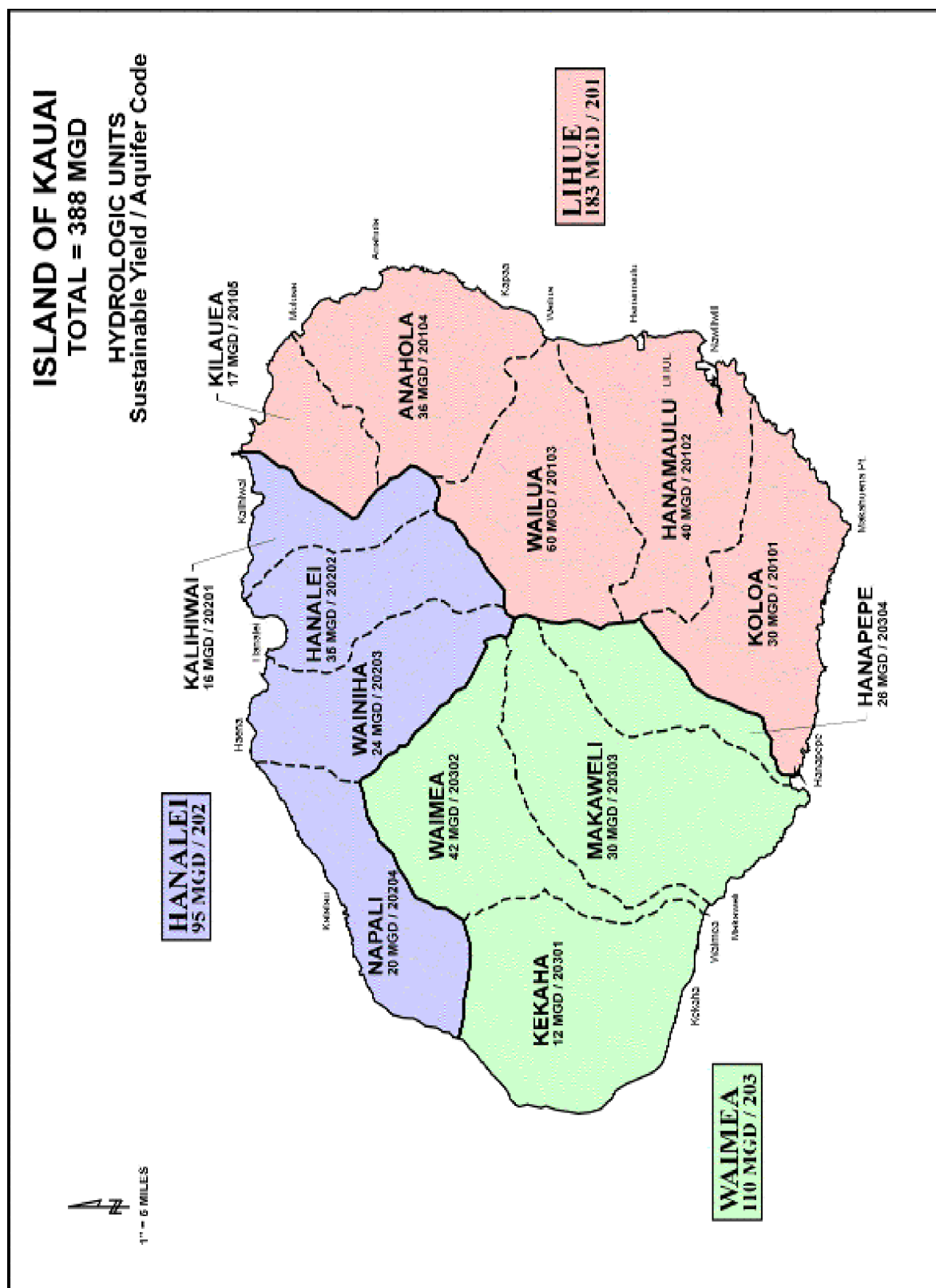
FIGURE 41.

The histogram below reflects the economic activity of wells in the state of Ha wai`i during the calendar years 1998 through 2001 .



Island	Hawai`i	Maui	O`ahu	Moloka`i
Well Count	73	65	91	6

FIGURE 42.



10/12/1995

FIGURE 44.

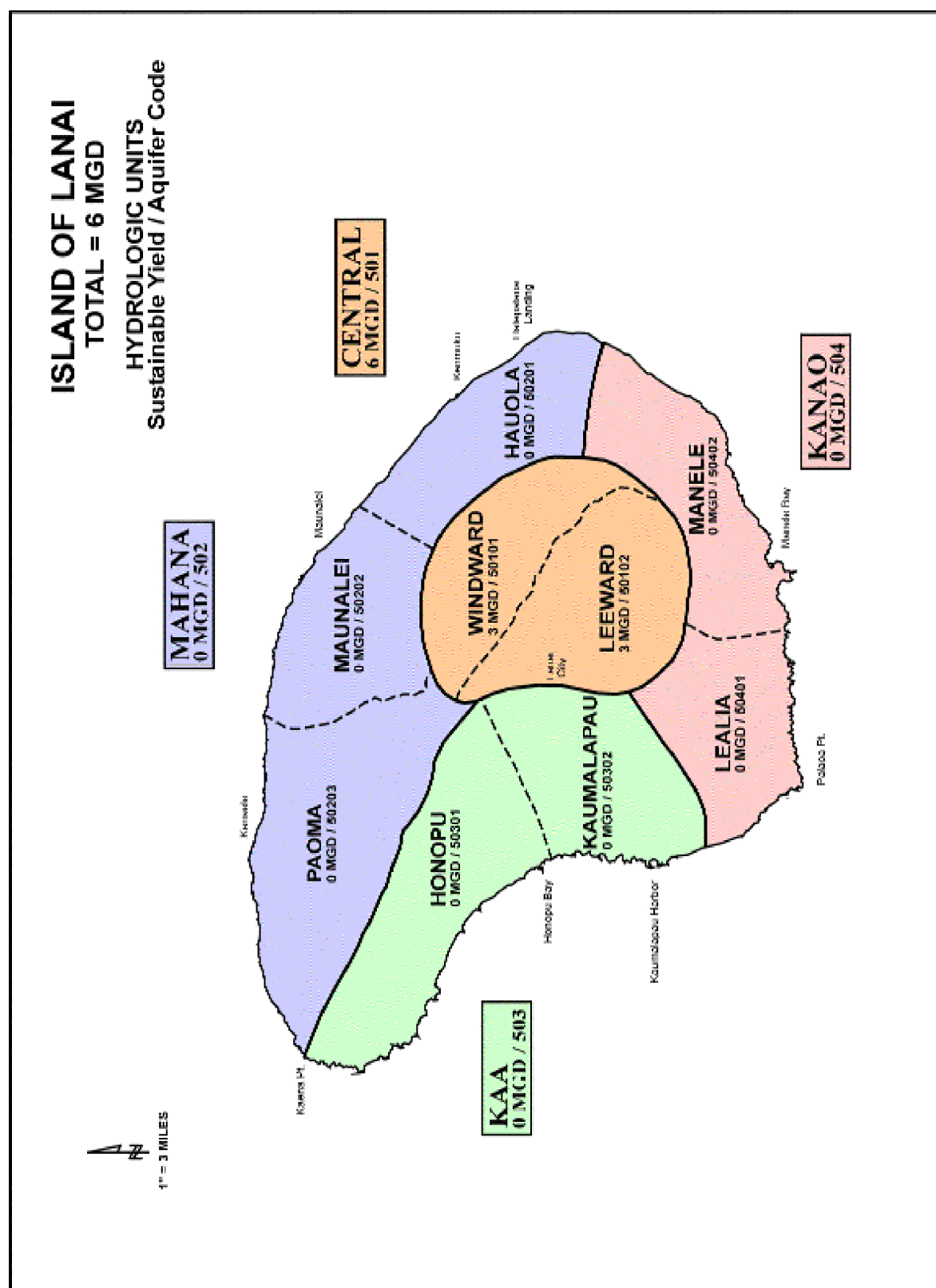


FIGURE 46.

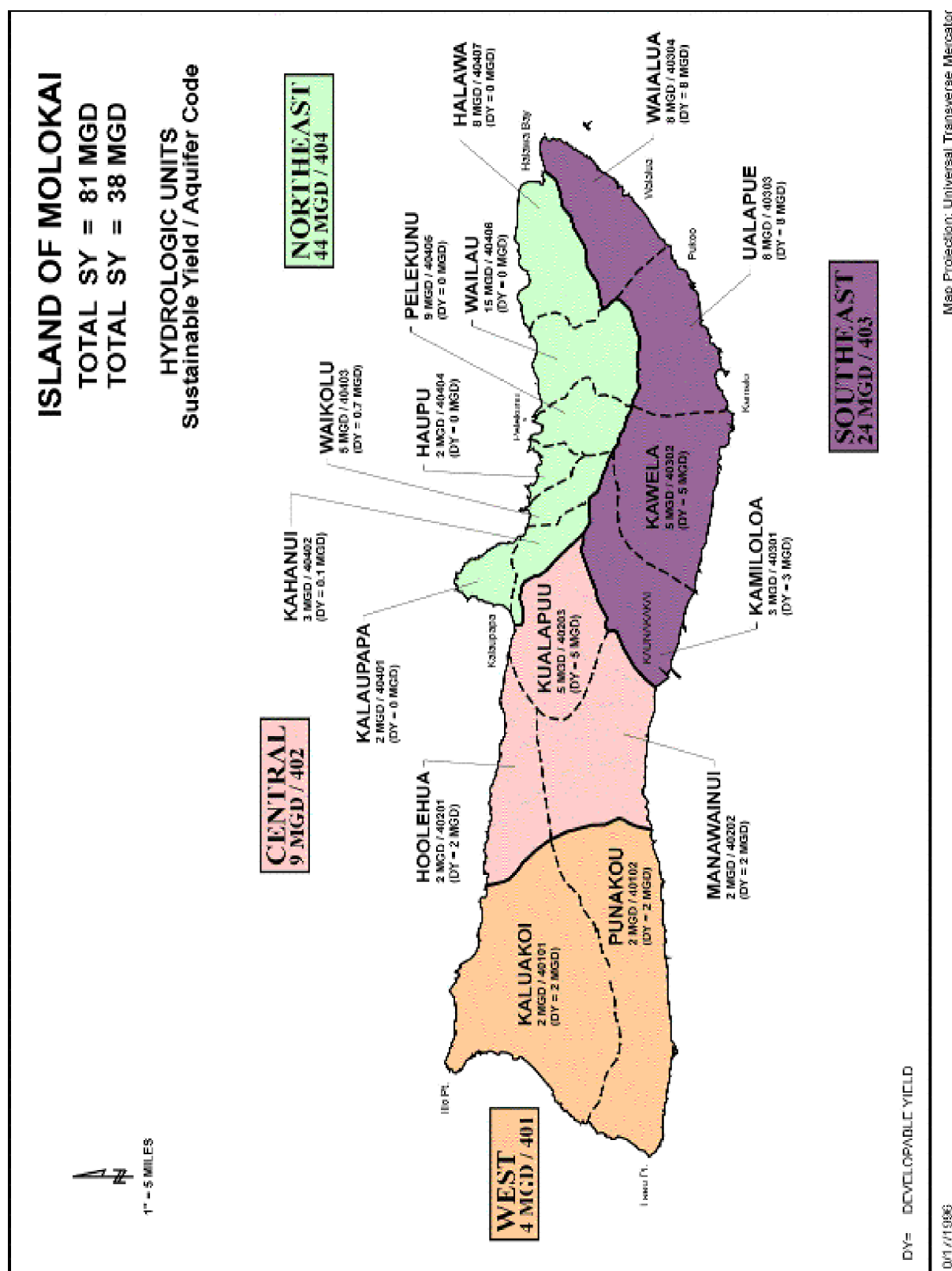


FIGURE 47.

